



COMMANDING OFFICER'S SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY STATEMENT

Members of this command serve their country proudly. We are forward-based far from home and our extended families. In such circumstances, we must rely on the men and women with whom we serve and the host nation civilians to provide us a sense of family. Sexual assault undermines the security and trust family members must have in one another. It destroys the unit's cohesiveness and morale. In a very personal way, sexual assault physically and emotionally violates the victim. A perpetrator, too often intoxicated, will also bear long-lasting scars from an incident that might easily be prevented.

By now, you have received numerous classes and training on sexual assault prevention. I charge each and every one of you to recognize situations that might lead to sexual assault. Take preventive measures to reduce the likelihood of an incident happening. Avoid excessive drinking and watch your friends closely for signs they may be exercising poor choices while under the influence. Maintain buddy integrity in town and be equally as vigilant in the barracks. You are the person best positioned to observe a situation and prevent a sexual assault from occurring.

If a sexual assault does occur, DO NOT INVESTIGATE the situation yourself nor make a determination as to whether or not the allegation is credible. Notify the chain of command immediately. In accordance with recent Secretary of Defense policy, I am the initial disposition authority for all sexual assault allegations in this command. I will personally review and determine what action to take in those reported cases. I expect you to treat victims with tremendous dignity and ensure they receive any medical or mental assistance they require. Both companies have Uniform Victim Advocates (UVA) assigned who are specifically trained to provide information and assistance on restricted and unrestricted reporting of sexual assaults.

<u>MCB SARC</u> Capt Madison	080-4479-8575
<u>PMO</u>	Foster: 645-7442
<u>UVA</u> GySgt Scott -IPAC SSgt Corbett -Military Counseling SSgt Ford -TMO SSgt Sharples -Postal GySgt Woods - Brig UVA's Duty Cell Hotline	090-6861-4102 645-HOPE(4673) (098)970-HOPE 887-995-5247
DoD Safe Helpline	887-995-5247

Semper Fidelis,

K. J. Estes
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